



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

18th Wing (PACAF)
Office of Public Affairs
Unit 5141 Box 30
APO AP 96368-5141
DSN 634-1509 FAX 634-2344

COLONEL THOMAS S. YARBROUGH

Colonel Thomas S. Yarbrough is the Vice Commander, 18th Wing, Kadena Air Base, Japan.

Colonel Yarbrough received his commission in 1974 through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps at Mississippi State University. He has held various staff positions in operations and acquisition and commanded an air refueling squadron. In 1988, he set four internationally sanctioned time-to-climb records for which he was awarded the Strategic Air Command's Kalberer Trophy. A command pilot, he has logged more than 3,000 hours primarily in KC-135 aircraft.

EDUCATION:

- 1974 Bachelor's degree in electrical engineering, Mississippi State University
- 1980 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell Air Force Base, AL
- 1982 Master's degree in electrical engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology
- 1987 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell Air Force Base, AL
- 1994 Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, AL

ASSIGNMENTS:

1. November 1974 - December 1975, Undergraduate Pilot Training, Williams AFB, AZ
2. January 1976 - May 1976, KC-135 initial qualification, Castle AFB, CA
3. May 1976 - November 1979, KC-135A pilot and aircraft commander, 46th Air Refueling Squadron, K.I. Sawyer AFB, MI
4. December 1979 - August 1981, KC-135A aircraft commander, 71st Air Refueling Squadron, Barksdale AFB, LA

5. August 1981 - December 1982, Senior Commanders' Education Program master's degree candidate, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA
6. January 1983 - June 1986, branch chief and acquisition program manager, Headquarters Armament Division, Eglin AFB, FL
7. July 1986 - June 1987, student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL
8. June 1987 - September 1991, KC-135R instructor pilot, Chief of Training Division, and Wing Executive Officer, 340th Air Refueling Wing, Altus AFB, OK
9. November 1990 - May 1991 (deployment), senior instructor pilot and Operations Officer, 1705th Air Refueling Squadron (Provisional), Al Dhafra AB, United Arab Emirates
10. September 1991 - June 1993, Commander, 917th Air Refueling Squadron, Dyess AFB, TX
11. August 1993 - June 1994, student, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, AL
12. July 1994 - May 1997, joint exercise plans officer, U.S. Atlantic Command, Norfolk, VA
13. May 1997 - July 1999, Assistant Chief of Operations, Fifth Air Force, Yokota AB, Japan
14. July 1999 - present, Vice Commander, 18th Wing, Kadena AB, Japan

FLIGHT INFORMATION:

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight Hours: Over 3,000

Aircraft Flown: T-37, T-38, KC-135A/R

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

Bronze Star

Defense Meritorious Service Medal

Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Air Medal with oak leaf cluster

Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster

Joint Service Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster

Air Force Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster

Joint Meritorious Unit Award with oak leaf cluster

Southwest Asia Service Medal with three bronze service stars

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION:

Second Lieutenant	November 7, 1974
First Lieutenant	November 7, 1976
Captain	November 7, 1978
Major	March 1, 1986
Lieutenant Colonel	May 1, 1991
Colonel	July 1, 1997